

Deacon Minutes –Approved
10 January 2017

Present: Mary Lancaster, Pam Parker, Cindy Taylor, Ishi Stackpole, Matt Armstrong, Gail Stewart, Ethan Funk, Teri Burgen, Paula Willis, Don Vande Polder and Pastor Cable

Absent: None

Opening Prayer: Mary Lancaster

Meeting Opened: 6:33 pm

December's Deacon Minutes: Approved as written. Ordered to be sent out to the Deacons, Session and Office Staff.

Pastor's Report

- Gashland M.D.
 - Now that the series has finished, it is the desire to keep the vision of Gashland M.D. on the “front burner”
 - During conversations, we will start by looking at the Seven Churches of Revelation (“Evaluation and Strengthening”)
 - Then some of the elders will lead the group through “Pilgrims Progress” as a way to engage participants with the Gashland M.D. story line (“Nourishing care”)
 - Concurrently, Ritchey will be leading a smaller group of approximately 10 people through a book called “Evangelism according to Jesus” by Jerram Barrs.
 - Designed to push people further in the Gashland MD progression. What does it look like to reach the lost?
 - Participants must have 1 person they care about that doesn't know Jesus and would like them to know Jesus
 - Incorporates “Initial care and Strengthening”
 - Also would like to incorporate the use of the Gashland M.D. icons with the various team activities, Sunday school classes etc. to reinforce the vision/culture/focus.
 - New Sermon Series
 - Book of Romans
 - Strengthening series meant to wear you down to build you up similar to Physical Therapy or running a marathon.

Team Reports

- **Coordinating Team**
 - Process Mapping

- Chris Taylor and Don Vande Polder are laying groundwork to establish church calendar for recurring activity planning so deadlines don't sneak up on anyone (eg Budget, nominating, staff reviews etc)
 - Need teams to consider what processes recur yearly that need to be planned in advance
 - Discussing how to establish and centralize church policies to avoid problem of “tribal knowledge” and where to find actual documented policies.
 - Community Church Builder has a lot of tools we are not using yet and may be useful for centralization of information, helpful in making efficient decisions and more effective communication.
 - Making Disciples
 - Teams and Deacons should consider making this topic a regular agenda item to assess how we are doing.
 - Frame things in this context to help change the culture.
- **Finance**
 - Pledge goal of \$785,000 met by the end of the year.
 - Ritchey, Phil Josephson and Ethan will be meeting Thursday morning to review the budget for presentation to Session that night.
 - If any budgets need to be cut, the team involved will be notified.
- **Helps**
 - No report; did not meet this month.
 - Question concerning continuation of snacks revealed they are being offered as usual. Coffee ministry considered very important.
 - Short discussion on the costs of coffee ministry and supplies. Suggestion made to consider use of non-disposable products e.g. mugs to save on costs and be more environmentally friendly. Members could bring their own mug.
- **Mercy**
 - See report
 - Sleeping Bag Project event Saturday 14 Jan 2017
 - Sleeping bags for homeless from all recycled materials
 - Given to Uplift Ministries for distribution
 - Will be filled with “Blessing Bags” containing hygiene products, gloves, hats, socks etc
- **Property**
 - No meeting/report

Old Business

- Matt, Cindy and Ethan have been added to the Pastoral Prayer Chain

- Directory
 - Cindy talked with Emily about helping with directory. Problem is with Community Church Builder. It will only allow one member's contact information to be entered. The spouse's information cannot not also be entered.
 - Coordinating Team will look into establishing a team to work on/oversee development of CCB. Will also look into training. Matt and Cindy have volunteered to be on the team.
 - In the meantime, Cindy will talk to Emily about an interim directory until CCB is up and running.
- Congregational Meeting
 - 29 January
 - What is needed? Team write-ups for yearbook?
 - Deacon/Elder confirmation
 - Budget

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New Business

- New Moderator and Clerk for Deacons
 - Mary and Cindy have served 2 years in this role.
 - Considerations for new leaders include Ethan Funk for Moderator and Teri Bergen for Clerk.
 - Will have further discussion when new Deacons are present.
- Chair Team discussion
 - Problem: Getting help after service to put chairs away
 - Motion (MA): Have Ritchey reconsider making announcement after service to elicit help with this task. Seconded by Gail. Approved.

WOW reports

- Bill Leuenberger does an amazing job with sound and lighting. Has a real heart for service.
- Met budget goal.
- Challenge offered by Ethan for 2017: What is one thing we can improve upon as a Deacon in the New Year?
 - Study, read and get more into the Bible everyday (EF)
 - Pray more as a group (ML)

Closing Prayer: Ritchey Cable

Meeting adjourned: 8:05 pm

Next Meeting: 14 Feb 2017 @ 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Taylor
Clerk of Deacons

Mary Lancaster
Moderator